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REMARKS

This Amendment is responsive to the Office Action dated June 9, 2003. In that Action, the Examiner rejected claims 6-7 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph and claims 1 -26 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being clearly anticipated by Novak. Claim 7, 15 and 16 were additionally rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Novak in view of Carter or Chow. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's rejection of the claims and offers the foregoing amendments and following remarks in support thereof.

Claims 3, 6, 7 and 24 have been canceled without prejudice. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 10-15, 17, 19, 20, 22 and 25 have been amended. Claims 27-29 have been added. No new matter has been inserted. Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 8 -23, 25 and 26 -29 remain pending in the application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the Examiner's rejections.

The above amendments overcome the Section 112 rejection.

As to the Section 102 and 103 rejections, the independent claims have been amended to further define that at the claimed invention includes an activation period which has at least a user set starting time for blocking of incoming telephone calls. The Novak reference is merely turned off or on and stays on. Thus there is no entered activation time period.

Additionally, certain dependent claims have also been amended to include the details of the various switch configurations (series switch, first vertical switch, second vertical switch, answer switch). Novak fails to teach or disclose Applicant's claimed switches.

Furthermore, certain dependent claims have also been amended to specifically indicate that a speaker and audible sound producing device, which are independent from the ringing bell of a user's

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telephone, are provided to alert the user that an incoming telephone call has entered the proper code. Novak merely uses the ringer of a user's telephone. The use of the separate speaker and audible sound producing device reduces the amount of AC signal required for the device and thus reduces costs.

Accordingly, application respectfully traverses the Section 102 and 103 rejections.

Applicant has completely responded to the Office Action dated June 9, 2003. Favorable action is respectfully requested.

Any additional charges, including Extensions of Time, please bill our Deposit Account No. 13-1130.

Respectfully submitted,



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